
Editorial

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Biographical notes: Rizafizah Othaman is a fellow member of Polymer Research Center at Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM). She received her PhD in Chemical Engineering from Tokyo Institute of Technology, Japan in 2009. Her research interests are in the field of polymeric membrane development for renewable energy applications and wastewater treatments.

Polymeric material plays essential and ubiquitous roles in everyday life, from those of familiar synthetic plastic like polypropylene and polyethylene, to the natural biopolymers such as cellulose and protein. Polymer is a wide-ranging field, encompassing aspect of basic macromolecular science, engineering, and material science (which includes polymer chemistry and polymer physics), that has developed to its current form due to the needs of advanced and smart materials for various novel applications. Therefore, emerging polymer gives a new meaning for researchers to practically solve many problems concerning human's life in bio-medical field, energy crisis and renewable energy such as in solar cell applications and engineering materials by using green chemistry and technology approach.

Malaysia Polymer International Conference 2011 (MPIC2011) is the second conference in the series organised by Polymer Research Center (PORCE), Faculty of Science and Technology, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) during the period of 18–20 October 2011. MPIC 2011 had managed to gather close to 200 participants from all around the world for oral and poster presentations. The mission of MPIC is to internationalise polymer research in Malaysia, and PORCE as a centre of reference in polymer science and technology. MPIC serves as a platform that gathers researchers from various backgrounds of polymer research. MPIC aims to promote, strengthen and expand the networking among researchers and research centres all over the world. The main focus will be on the research and development of polymers for novel applications.

This special issue is based on the selected papers presented during MPIC 2011. The papers have been reviewed according to the requirements set by the *International Journal of Materials Engineering Innovation (IJMatEI)*.